

Problem:**test yourself because**

it is presumption - not testing yourself - to be lukewarm and to not be bothered - 2 Cor 13:5

assurance - testing yourself- not to become saved but to be encouraged by the fact that you already have been saved - working out your salvation - Phil 2:12-13

CPT:

John gives an aside regarding his tone - it is his greeting - confidence in their christian experience and hence for their encouragement through their assurance - every because statement is a summarization of his theology

Main Idea:

your sins have already been forgiven

you already know Christ

you have already overcome the evil one

you already know the Father

you already have eternal life

you are already victorious

Implication:**it will encourage you**

it was not John who was challenging their assurance but the false ones

- 1 Jn 1:6, 8, 10; 2:4-7

note: these are not means to come to know Christ but tests for those who know Him already

John didn't question their relationship with Jesus. He was sure that they did know Him and that they did live in fellowship with God. His test were meant to assure them of the fact in the midst of false brethren

-1 John 5:13

Application:

a pastor who refuses to challenge his congregation to test themselves that they are in the faith robs true believers from real assurance and gives false comfort to the fakers who have never been saved.

Christian do you want the joy that comes from assurance? test yourself

Text: Test yourself because- 2 Cor 13:5 (*Christ is in you*)

your sins have already been forgiven

1 John 2:12 I am writing(**present**) to you, **little children (blanket term)**,

because your sins are forgiven(**perfect**) for his name's sake.

little children - children is about position not age - 1 Jn 2:1, 28; 3:1-2, 7, 10. 18; 5:21

sins forgiven - thus we are children being born again - John 8:39-44; 11:52; 1:12-13; 3:3, 7

John's confident of this - 1 Jn 3:9; 4:7; 5:1, 4, 18-21

you already know Christ

1 John 2:13a I am writing(**present**) to you, **fathers (seasoned believers)**,

because you know(perfect) him who is from the beginning.

Fathers - some of the children are fathers through the gospel ->

- 1 Cor 4:14-16; 1 Tim 1:2, 18; Titus 1:4; Philemon 10; 3 Jn 4

having known him who is from the beginning -Jn 1:1; 1 Jn 1:1 (ambassadors 2 Cor 5)

you have already overcome the evil one

1 John 2:13b I am writing(present) to you, **young men (newer believers)**,

because you have overcome(perfect) the evil one.

young men - new believers are over-comers

overcome - Jn 16:33 -> 1 Jn 4:4; 5:4-5 -His victory is ours

you already know the Father

1 John 2:13c I write(aorist) to you, **children (christians)**,

because you know(perfect) the Father.

the Father is revealed through the Son- Jn 1:18; 14:6-10

children - personal relationship through the Son

you already have eternal life

1 John 2:14a I write(aorist) to you, **fathers (seasoned)**,

because you know(perfect) him who is from the beginning.

Knowing God through Christ is knowing eternal life - 17:3, 7, 8, 23, 25

eternal life is not about intellectual knowledge but a relationship - Matt 7:21-23

you are already victorious

1 John 2:14b I write(aorist) to you, **young men (newer)**,

because you are strong,

and the word of God abides in you,

and you have overcome(perfect) the evil one.

you have overcome the evil one -> so what

you are strong -> Eph 6:10, 17 me abiding in the Word-> Jn 8:31;

you have the Word abiding in you - Jn 5:38 - Jn 15:1-16

It will encourage you -- 1 Jn 1:6, 8, 10; 2:4-7; 5:13

here are some articles for further study and discussion:

<http://www.gotquestions.org/confession-forgiveness.html>

<http://www.gotquestions.org/what-is-eternal-life.html>

http://www.popularhymns.com/victory_in_jesus.php